

Creel Survey

February 7, 2011

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – No report on angling success is currently available. Last week, Tacoma Power recovered 20 coho adults, one jack and 83 winter-run steelhead during four days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 13 coho adults, one jack and 33 winter-run steelhead into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek and 16 winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 12,800 cubic feet per second on Monday, February 7. Water visibility is three feet.

Lower Columbia from the I-5 Bridge downstream – Effort is beginning to build with 28 boats and 82 bank anglers counted during the Saturday Feb. 5 effort flight count. Although we did not sample any catch, some spring Chinook have been reported caught. Lower river is turbid below the mouth of the Cowlitz.

Bonneville Pool – No salmonid anglers were sampled.

The Dalles Pool – Slow for steelhead from the bank.

John Day Pool – Bank anglers are catching some steelhead.

From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW District 4 Fish Biologist in Pasco:

Lower Reach (Hwy 395 to old Hanford town site):

An estimated 136 steelhead were caught of which 100 were kept in January. Anglers are averaging 1 steelhead for each 17 hours of fishing. Boat anglers have fared better than the shore anglers at 12 hours per steelhead versus 31 hours per steelhead for bank anglers. A total of 1,146 steelhead have been caught this season and 871 steelhead have been harvested. WDFW staff sampled 24% of the estimated angler effort in this fishery in January and 23% for the season. Catch and harvest numbers are well below the 2008 and 2009 fisheries but similar to those of 2004-07.

Upper Reach (Vernita Bridge to Priest Rapids Dam):

On December 8, WDFW opened the Columbia River from the Hwy 24 Bridge (Vernita Bridge) to Priest Rapids Dam for the retention of hatchery steelhead. This is the first time this area has been open in the winter for steelhead in many years. For the month of January, 78 steelhead have been caught and 42 hatchery steelhead have been harvested. Angler effort has been relatively light. We are currently averaging 1 boat trip per day. Very few anglers are fishing from shore for steelhead. For those who venture out fishing has been very good with boat anglers averaging 1 steelhead harvested for each 5 hours of fishing. An estimated 225 steelhead have been caught in this fishery with 47 hatchery steelhead harvested.

Based on steelhead sampled at Priest Rapids Dam in 2010, 42% of the unclipped steelhead migrating to the Upper Columbia River are hatchery origin.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – We did not sample any legals nor many sublegals last week. Effort is building with 90 boats and 27 bank anglers counted during last Saturday's flight count. One-third of the boats were counted in the Vancouver area.

Bonneville Pool – Including fish released, anglers averaged nearly a legal per boat. Bank anglers were also catching some legals.

The Dalles Pool – Slow for legal size fish.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Slow from the bank.

Walleye and Bass

Bonneville Pool – No effort was found for either specie.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers are catching some walleye.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers averaged nearly ½ walleye kept per rod. The few bank anglers fishing for bass had no catch.

Trout

Kliline Pond – 42 bank anglers kept 48 rainbows and released 2. Planted with 3,005 catchable size rainbows Feb. 1.

Silver Lake near Castle Rock – No report on angling success. Planted with 3,093 catchable size rainbows Feb. 2.

Battleground Lake – No report on angling success. Planted with 2,000 rainbows averaging over ½ pound each Feb. 2.

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹
January 31 - February 6, 2011

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers.
Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Sturgeon																	
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept			
Bonneville Pool	33	7		4		20	40	114	148	3	36	2	161	181			
The Dalles Pool	37	3				2	8	13	3			1	9	11			
John Day Pool	52	3				10	35	76	14		8	1	34	44			
Total	122	13		4		32	83	203	165	3	44	4	204	236			
Salmonids	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept		Jacks Kept Week	Cum	
														2	2		
	Bonneville Pool																
	Chinook																
	Coho																
Steelhead														2	2		
The Dalles Pool	19					8	1	1						8			
Chinook																	
Coho																	
Steelhead						8								8			
John Day Pool	6		1	1		1	2	4					5	6			
Chinook																	
Coho																	
Steelhead			1	1		1							5	6			
Walleye	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept				
	Bonneville Pool																
	The Dalles Pool						2	3		2			11	11			
	John Day Pool						10	20		9			23	23			
Bass	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept				
	Bonneville Pool																
	The Dalles Pool																
	John Day Pool	3															

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (% of 6-week average)	140%	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	1.36	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.27	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (% of 6-week average)	80%	138%	106%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.14	none	0.67	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	0.67	none
John Day	Effort (% of 6-week average)	104%	150%	279%	450%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.20	0.20	0.45	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.06	0.10	0.45	none

9:00 AM

Salmonid																			
Month/Week	Bank	Chinook Kept		Chinook Released		Steelhead					#	Boat	Chinook Kept	Chinook Released		Steelhead			
Feb. 1-6	Sec.	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Other			Boats	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Other
Bonneville	1																		
Camas/Washougal	2																		
	3																		
Vancouver	4																		
Woodland	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0			1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6																		
Cowlitz	7																		
Longview	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0											
Cathlamet	9																		
Rocky Point-Cathlamet	10																		
Total	.		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sturgeon															
		Bank	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals		#	Boat	Sublegals	Legals	Oversize	Legals		
	<u>Sec.</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Kept</u>		<u>Boats</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Kept</u>		
Bonneville	1	2	0	0	0	0									
Camas/Washougal	2														
	3														
Vancouver	4							2	4	2	0	0	0		
Woodland	5														
Kalama	6														
Cowlitz	7														
Longview	8	1	0	0	0	0									
Cathlamet	9														
Cathlamet	10														
Knappton/Deep River ramps	10														
Chinook-Knappton	10	2	0	0	0	0									
Total		5	0	0	0	0		2	4	2	0	0	0		

Walleye									
	Bank					#	Boat		
	Anglers	Kept	Rel.			Boats	Anglers	Kept	Rel.
Bonneville	1								
Camas/Washougal	2								
	3								
Vancouver	4								
Woodland	5								
Kalama	6								
Cowlitz	7								
Longview	8								
Cathlamet	9								
Chinook/Elochoman	10								
Total	0	0	0			0	0	0	0